

The Week+ Ahead as We Live in God's Grace

Today (7th)	7:45 am	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	9:00 am	Sunday School (the Daughter of Jairus) Adult Bible Class (Welcoming Worship)
	10:15 am	Worship w/ Holy Communion
	7:00 pm	Satellite Bible Study (topic: parenting; location: Roberts)
Mon (8th)	7:30 pm	Church Council Meeting
Tue (9th)	11:30 am	Senior Luncheon
	1:00 pm	WELS OWLS Meeting (at Bethany, Appleton)
Wed (10th)	3:30 pm	Catechism Class – <u>8th Graders Only</u>
	7:30 pm	Choir Practice
Thu (11th)	7:00 pm	Handbells Practice (at Trinity, Kaukauna)
Sun (14th)	7:45 am	Worship
	9:00 am	Sunday School (The Prodigal Son) Adult Bible Class (Welcoming Worship)
	10:15 am	Worship (w/ Examination of Confirmands)
	6:00 pm	FVLHS Spring Concert (bands and choirs)
Sat (20th)	7a-12p	Children's Fun-Fest / Concessions / Brat Fry
	9:00 am	St. John 1k/5k Color Run/Walk
Sun (21st)	10:15 am	8 th Grade Confirmation
Thu (25th)	7:00 pm	Joint Ascension Service (w/ refreshments following)
Fri (26th)	9:30 am	St. John LES Closing Service (at church)
Sat (6/3rd)	11a-3p	St. John Fishing Extravaganza (at Mueller Park)

News & Notes

New Church Fund

Per voter resolution, a portion of the proceeds from the land sale, as well as a recent memorial, have been placed in a new "Capital Building Fund." Members are able to donate monies to this fund if and as they wish.

We're attempting to touch base with one of our members – Lisa Vanden Elsen. We have no contact info whatsoever. If anyone knows her or has any way of contacting her, please speak with Ron Zahn, our head elder.

Apple Valley Food Pantry

The next collection date is May 21st. Needed: paper towels; canned meats; crackers; cookies; canned fruits; cake mix & frosting; cereal; hamburger helper. Thanks!

Important Every-Member Meetings

Please sign up for a meeting if you haven't yet attended one. The elders will soon start calling members to inquire when they plan to attend.

Membership Roster Updates / Member Search

The Biblical Practice of Close Communion

Through the apostle Paul, God speaks of his desire for all of us to reach perfect unity (Ephesians 4:12,13). We members of St. John Congregation certainly share his desire. We seek to express that unity – with our current members, with those who desire membership, and also with Christians around the world.

Scripture speaks of two different types of unity. First, Christ has reconciled every single one of us to God through his perfect life and death on our behalf. Even now, God considers us saints and heirs of heaven, clothed with Christ's righteousness. You might think of this as a "vertical" unity – purely between the individual and his or her God. Through Christ, peace with God has been restored. Then, there's also an outward and public unity – a "horizontal" unity – as fellow saints worship side-by-side. The celebration of Holy Communion is guided by both types.

For communion to be celebrated in a beneficial way, those attending will come united with their God and also with their fellow-communicants. The former is established by repentance – a sorrow over sin and a trust in God's forgiveness – that he himself produces. It's a matter of the heart. The latter is established by the outward confession of what each of us believes. It's a matter of the mouth.

We do not presume to look into the heart, for only God is able to do that. We do, however, seek to establish outward unity by studying God's Word together so that we share a common confession. Our congregation offers a Bible study course that's designed for just that purpose.

And so, out of love for God and his Word, we kindly ask that all visitors speak with the pastor about how we can establish that outward unity prior to your attending Holy Communion here at St. John. We desire to make that goal a priority, so that you may receive the Sacrament as soon as possible.

May God bless your hearing of the Word today as he reminds you
of his full and free forgiveness in Christ!